



Bishop of Midway First Ward 1926-1938.

Clark Bronson, son of Everice Ruthven and Cynthia Van Wagoner Bronson, was born April 21, 1885 in Midway. He was the seventh member of a family of 13 children, seven boys and six girls.

As a small boy he herded cows in the lowlands south of Midway and learned early in life to be helpful and dependable. He worked on his father's farm and it was here he learned much about stock raising and took great pride in the finest breed of horses.

When just a young man his first job away from home was working on a farm from four A.M. until ten P.M. for the sum of \$15 a month.

He married Ruby Quinn of Ephraim, then a school teacher in Midway School, in October, 1910. To this union was born one daughter, Dorothy. His wife died in the influenza epidemic, October 18, 1918. This marriage was later solemnized in Salt Lake Temple.

On March 8, 1920, he was called to the Southern States Mission where he labored until April, 1922. On his return from this mission he was made superintendent of Midway First Ward Sunday School and later president of the YMMIA.

He married Alice Monson of Pleasant Grove, March 14, 1923, in the Salt Lake Temple. She was a teacher in Midway School. To them were born three sons and three daughters: Lazelle, married Loyce Martin; Keith married Delvene Sweat; Harvey married Betty Jo Wall; Melba married Keith Adams; Luana married Ben McFee; and Beth married Ralph Johnson.

Many Church and civic positions were held by him. On November 28, 1926, he was made Bishop of Midway First Ward. For a period of twelve years Wm. W. Wilson, George T. Watkins, Albert Kohler, George W. Johnson, Keith Coleman, Ernest Kuhni served as counselors with James T. Pyper serving many years as clerk and later released with Ellis Steele acting as clerk. After being released as bishop he was a member of Wasatch Stake High Council for eleven years and is now a ward teacher.

He was town marshal, director of Midway Irrigation Company, member of town board, Wasatch County Commissioner, supervisor of county roads for a number of years, and a director of Mutual Aid Insurance Company for thirty-five years.

## HENRY THRELKELD COLEMAN & EMILY SPRINGER COLEMAN



Bishop of Midway First Ward—1906-1913.

Henry T. Coleman was born November 20, 1863, in Big Cottonwood, Salt Lake County, Utah. He was the only son of Henry and Mary Jane Threlkeld Coleman. The family moved to Midway in 1864. He married Emily M. Springer on December 31, 1889. They had eleven children, ten of whom lived to adulthood.

Mr. Coleman was blessed December, 1863, in Big Cottonwood by Bishop Brinton. He was baptized in 1873 by Peter Abplanalp, Sr., and like many others at that time was re-baptized in 1880 by Elijah Alder and confirmed by John Huber. He was ordained a teacher in 1881 by David Van Wagoner; as an Elder in 1890 by Bishop David Van Wagoner; as a High Priest by Apostle Hyrum M. Smith in 1906. He was an acting teacher with John Van Wagoner, Sr., in 1881, with John Sonderegger in 1890. In 1890 he was chosen as the secretary of the

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2nd Quorum of Elders to Adam Empey as President. In 1892 he was chosen as 2nd counselor in the 2nd Quorum of Elders with D. L. Van Wagoner as president, John A. Wootton as 1st counselor, and John E. Morton as secretary. In 1905 he was set apart by Bishop Joseph Francom as the 1st counselor in the YMMIA with Attewell Wootton, Jr., president; John Van Wagoner, 2nd counselor; and Robert Ross, secretary. In 1906 he was set apart as Bishop of the Midway First Ward under the hands of Apostle Hyrum M. Smith, with John U. Buehler as his first counselor, William L. Van Wagoner as his second counselor, and Charles E. Bronson as clerk. When Brother Buehler moved away, he chose William L. Van Wagoner as 1st counselor and William W. Wilson as his second counselor. When Charles Bronson went on his mission, he chose Simon Epperson to be the ward clerk. In October, 1913, Bishop Coleman was sustained as a member of the Wasatch Stake High Council and was set apart by Apostle James E. Talmage. In 1920 he was ordained the Patriarch of Wasatch Stake by the Church Patriarch, Hyrum G. Smith. This position he held at his death.

Mr. Coleman was appointed constable of Midway in 1892 by the Governor of the Territory of Utah, Arthur L. Thomas. He was made a trustee of the Midway Town Board in 1897. In 1898 he was appointed road supervisor of the Midway roads. He was president of the Midway Water Works from 1900 to 1906. He was elected a member of the Wasatch County Commission in 1900, and served until 1907. He was elected a member of the Midway Town Board in 1907. He served on the Draft Board during World War I. He was appointed as an agent of the United States Public Service Bureau by the U.S. Secretary of Labor, W. B. Nelson, in 1918; and was appointed a delegate to the Mountain Congress for a League of Nations by Governor Simon Bamberger in 1919. He was crop and pests inspector of Wasatch County in 1919-1921. He was elected president of the Wasatch County Chamber of Commerce in 1930. He was appointed a member of the Utah State Defense Council in 1942, was a member of the Selective Service Board from 1942 to 1947. He was a director of the Heber Bank. He served as State Road Foreman in Wasatch County for twenty-six years.

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He died May 13, 1952, in Midway, and was buried in the Midway Cemetery.

Emily Matilda Springer Coleman was born September 6, 1868, in Midway. She was the daughter of Nathan Chatmond Springer and Matilda Robey. She was married to Henry Threlkeld Coleman on December 31, 1889, in Midway, and the marriage was later solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple.

Emily came into the world one bright autumn Sabbath morning, the first-born of her goodly parents. The beautiful early morning birth heralded the joy and brightness of this lovely person. She learned easily and quickly. She was talented and capable from her very early childhood. She was a born executive and leader. She could sing, play the organ and write well at an early age. She had exceptional dramatic ability. While still in the elementary school, she assisted Attewell Wootton, the teacher, with his reading groups. At fourteen years of age she was a teacher in the Sunday School, and continued from then on to work in the Church.

After the death of her father she was a great comfort and help to her mother and family. She and her husband lived close to the Robeys and Springers and proved a pillar of strength to them.

Mrs. Coleman is the mother of eleven children, ten of them still living—all prosperous, talented citizens. She is the author of many lovely poems and pageants. She directed scores of pageants, programs and plays. She sang in the choir and was a member of the Singing Mothers until her advanced years prevented participation. She will be ninety-one years old in September, 1959.

She taught in the Mutual Improvement Association in her youth. She was president of the primary in the Midway First Ward, president of the Midway First Ward Relief Society for thirteen years and counselor for five years. She was a member of the Wasatch Stake Sunday School Board, the Stake Mutual Improvement Association Board, the Stake Relief Society Board. She has been a teacher in the Sunday School and Relief Society, and was the genealogical leader of the Midway First Ward.

She was the Charter Captain of the Hawthorne Camp of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, first vice-president to county

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president Jane Turner of the DUP, first vice-president to county president Emma Wherritt of the DUP, county chaplain of the DUP.

She was chairman of the Red Cross in Midway, and co-chairman of the Liberty Bond Drive. She was a member of the Midway Dramatic Club, correspondent for the Wasatch Wave for forty years. She has spoken at many funerals, and presented innumerable programs. She was the Wasatch County Mother of the Year in 1955. She has traveled extensively.

The home of Henry and Emily Coleman has always been a gathering place, abounding in friendliness, cheer and hospitality.

Mrs. Coleman died at her home on March 15, 1961, and was buried in the Midway Cemetery.

At the time of her death, an editorial in the Wasatch Wave of April 6, 1961, entitled "A Grand Old Lady—Emily Coleman," said the following:

"The grand old lady of Wasatch County passed away last month, leaving a vacancy in the hearts of an entire community.

"Mrs. Emily Coleman, known affectionately as "Grandma" to hundreds of younger friends, left at her death a heritage of ten children, 26 grandchildren, 54 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren spread across the world from Midway to Australia.

"In addition, her friends numbered in the thousands; Midway First Ward Chapel, scene of her funeral, overflowed with the crowd present to pay their final respects, and notes of sympathy continue to pour in from far and wide.

"A correspondent for the Wasatch Wave for 40 years, Grandma Coleman served her church and community faithfully in many capacities.

"Grandma Coleman had been around for 92 years, so her passing came as no shock to family and friends. But those 92 years had been so filled with doing and giving and loving that she had become a permanent part of Wasatch County; her handsome, hospitable Midway home a haven for relatives and neighbors who found her perennial youth, her warmth and sparkle irresistible.

"Just as the gay patchwork cushion covers she worked at cheer the homes of her many friends here, so will the memory of Grandma Coleman cheer for years to come all whose lives she touched with hers."

Store Keeper

## HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

Children of Henry Threlkeld Coleman and Emily Matilda Springer:

Henry Springer, married Viva Christine Orrock;

Guy Ellsworth, married Teresa Aplanalp;

Mrs. Francis C. (Letha Belle) Tatge;

Mrs. C. Elmer (Merle Vivienne) Madsen;

Glen Robey, died in infancy;

Nathan Chatmond, married Cleo Stubbs,

who died, and Esther Johnson;

Keith Threlkeld, married Hazel Mae Blood;

Dale Franklin, married Nancy Helen Doolin;

Mrs. Laurence Winfield (Rhea Lillian) Guild;

Mrs. Reed A. (Ruth May) Phillips;

Mrs. George Frank (Jessie Chloe) Madsen.

## GEORGE A. AND LUCY SMITH WHITTAKER DAVIS

George A. Davis, son of Albert Wesley Davis and Melissa Jane Lambson, born July 7, 1877, in Salt Lake City. Died November 28, 1939.

Lucy Smith Whittaker, daughter of David Moroni Whittaker and Mary Ann Smith, born January 5, 1885, in Salt Lake City. Died February 6, 1927.

Their early youth was spent in Salt Lake City. They attended schools there. He also attended the LDS College.

Having worked in the Church, on March 15, 1899 George was ordained an Elder, in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, by Joseph F. Smith, and on December 10, 1899, he left for a mission to the Hawaiian Islands. While out on this work, the City of Honolulu was quarantined for Bubonic Plague, and he was called to go on guard line to guard the city to see that no one left. He was appointed a special police officer for three months and ten days until the close of the quarantine. From this work he was called back to mission headquarters, and given other duties. He was appointed over-seer of the Laie Plantation from April 15, 1901, to April 6, 1903, when he was released and appointed to preside over the Hilo, Hamakua, and Kohala conferences until August 14, 1903. He was released from his mission and returned home September 11, 1903.

On January 27, 1904, he was called to the Stake Mission for the Salt Lake Stake, and was set apart to this work by Joseph E. Taylor.

Upon arriving home from his mission he worked on the farm owned by his father. He started going with Lucy Smith Whittaker

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and they were married February 4, 1904, in the Salt Lake Temple. He continued in the farming, and they were both active in Church work.

The Davis family moved to Midway, May 6, 1916, purchasing the Maria Schoney Mitchell home in Stringtown where they lived until the death of their oldest son, George, in 1924. At that time they returned to Salt Lake.

George was active in civic and church affairs. He had a fine herd of Jersey dairy cows, and sold milk and cream to the Mutual Creamery Company. He was a director and president of the Citizen's Mercantile Co., a member of the Midway Town Board, a member of the Amusement Board of Midway and a member of the Genealogical Society of Midway.

In Church affairs he was a teacher and chorister of the Midway Second Ward and then served as second counselor to Bishop Jacob Probst in the Second Ward. He was also a leader in the High Priests group and the parent teacher in the Sunday School. He sang and preached at many funerals.

Mrs. Davis worked in the Primary, the Relief Society and the MIA of the Second Ward, and was known as a gentle, patient, sympathetic woman. Though she was partially blind she never complained, and always had a cheerful smile for everyone. She was particularly noted for her flower gardens.

Children of George and Lucy Davis included:

David Moroni, married Coralyn Adamson and had three daughters;

Willard Wendell, married Allanson B. McKean and had three sons.

Lucile Davis, married to Charles Frank Parker, two children;

Albert Fielding Davis, married Fay Hepworth, had one child;

Nina Mary Davis, married to Ray Fred Kohler, had two children.



# JAMES THOMAS AND CLARISSA VAN WAGONER PYPER

James Thomas Pyper, son of James Munro Pyper and Mary Ann Barton. Born April

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2, 1877, in Nephi, Juab County, Utah. Married Clarissa Van Wagoner February 7, 1900, in Midway. Temple marriage April 5, 1900, Salt Lake Temple. Died April 14, 1956, LDS Hospital, Salt Lake City.

Clarissa Van Wagoner, daughter of John Van Wagoner Sr., and Margaret Ann Faucett. Born September 26, 1880, in Midway.

James was the youngest of five children: Mary Alice Barton, Rose Ellen, John Barton, Clara Ann and James Thomas Pyper. When he was twenty-three months old his mother died, leaving a sad and motherless family. Before long his father married Nancy Jane Caldwell, and she became an angel of mercy to the family and the only mother James ever knew. He loved her dearly. She became the mother of eight sons and one daughter of her own.

After this marriage, the family moved to Fairview, Sanpete County, where they lived until James was twelve years old, then they came to make their home in Midway, where they remained until after the marriage of James and Clarissa in 1900. The father and mother and all of the children except John and wife, Sarah, James and wife, Clarissa and George, a younger brother, moved into Taylorsville, Alberta, Canada, when that country was opened for the settlement of the Latter-day Saints, and where his father, James Munro, died and was buried in 1903.

Clarissa's parents were original pioneers in Midway, and had a home in the Old Fort, as did also their parents, John Halmah and Clarissa Tappen Van Wagoner, and John McKey and Mary Ann (Aunt Polly) Shelton Faucett. She was the sixth child in a family of fourteen children.

She had a busy life, learning the many things that a woman of that generation needed to know in a large family. She worked in Park City for the George Smith

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family when their mother died, and helped cook for the railroad men when her father took a contract to furnish men and equipment for the building of the railroad through Echo Canyon.

She was a beautiful young lady, with dark hair and snapping black eyes, though she was small in stature, standing just five feet, three inches tall, and James was hard put to win her for his wife, though he always teased her that she had to ask his mother for him.

They enjoyed a fruitful and happy life, becoming a "backbone" family in the community. James was a splendid farmer, and first leased and then bought a hillside and river-bottom farm, which by dint of his brain and his two hands, he cleared of timber, brush, and boulders, filled in the swales and leveled the high places, and brought into wonderful productivity. He loved farming and stock-raising. He began some of the first crop-rotation practices in the valley; he produced fat cattle and hogs; kept a farm flock of chickens, grew wonderful crops of potatoes and truck garden.

James was a member of the Town Board several terms, Director of the Midway Irrigation Company, County Assessor, manager of the Amusement Hall, Ward Clerk in the Midway First Ward for twenty-three years, active in the 96th Quorum of Seventy for many years, served a mission to the Eastern States in 1925, and was always participating in what had to be done, from building roads, fences and bridges, and digging ditches to dancing a fancy quadrille. Clara worked in all the Church organizations, being teacher, chorister, Relief Society counselor to Sister Mary A. Johnson, working on the Genealogy Committee and many other Church activities and also active in the Daughters of the Pioneers.

Their home was a gathering place for the young people of the Ward. Every missionary who left the town for a mission was given a fine dinner and at least five dollars from them, and another dinner when he returned home. Every newly-wed couple was entertained and feasted by them. Every school teacher was especially invited for special dinners. Their hospitality was known far and wide by old and young; relatives, friends and even strangers. No one ever went away hungry from their home. The smallest event was used as an excuse for a

party or a picnic. They dearly loved people and quickly made friends.

James helped plow the first furrow around the foundation of the new First Ward Chapel, begun soon after the wards were divided in 1903, and he continued to work on that chapel until it was finished and dedicated.

In 1938 James' health failed and he was unable to run his farm. Hoping to still be useful, they moved to Salt Lake City to work in the Temple, and there they did endowments and sealings for 3500 people and then they stopped keeping track of the names. His health became more frail and finally he was unable to continue labor in the Temple and had to retire even from that activity.

They finally bought them a small home in Pleasant Grove, where they went to live. It was here that James spent his last days and to the very last he beautified and made it produce, raising raspberries, strawberries, tomatoes, cucumbers, fruits and flowers.

For many years he was an invalid and his faithful wife cared for him tenderly and lovingly. He was buried in the Midway Cemetery after a beautiful service in the old home ward he loved so much and devoted so much service to.

Clara still lives in the little home in Pleasant Grove. She still goes to the Temple each week and faithfully attends to her duties in the Ward.

Children of James Thomas and Clarissa Van Wagoner Pyper:

Ralph Delos Pyper, married Ruth Jenkins, parents of five sons:

Jennie Luella Pyper, married George W. Johnson, parents of three sons, two daughters:

Thora Pearl Pyper, deceased:

Clara Edwards, married Joseph Parley Edwards, parents of four sons, one daughter:

Alda Lavell Pyper, married LeRoy Carsey, married Harry Charlton, childless:

Ray Van Pyper, married Ruth North, parents of three sons, four daughters:

Alma Leland Pyper, married Blanche Chivell; married Dorene Root. Father of two sons, one daughter:

Chloe Pyper, married Earl Finlayson; parents of six sons, two daughters:

Clyde Pyper, married Marjorie Casper, parents of one son and one daughter:

George Arthur Pyper, married Dorothy Ruth Young, one daughter; married Max-

ine Nelson, one daughter and two adopted sons.

Mima Maud Pyper, married Lincoln Rasband, two sons and four daughters.



WILLIAM WALTER WILSON  
AND ELIZABETH B. COLEMAN  
WILSON AND BERTHA  
SONDEREGGER WILSON

William Walter Wilson was a man of unusual strength of character, industry and integrity, all of which made him a real influence for good in his home, community, and church.



He was born in Salt Lake City on September 22, 1863, a son of Isabella Ross and James T. Wilson. He lived successively in the Provo Valley, Arizona and Midway.

On March 21, 1894, William married Elizabeth Bailey Coleman. She died January 21, 1901. He married again on December 23, 1903, Bertha Sonderegger. He died February 28, 1939, in Midway.

Much of his early life was spent on farm and range where he learned the value of hard work, thrift and industry. He and his brothers took contracts for timber and hauled wood from the White Pines to the Ontario Mine. Later he engaged in farming and livestock raising.

Born of parents who were pioneer immigrant converts to the Church, William was reared in a wholesome but humble atmosphere without many of the educational or material advantages that are so common today. Although he attended grammar school for a limited period, he loved learning and educated himself by spare-time study, constant reading, and the practice of handwriting. He cherished education and encouraged his children to achieve. They in turn sought his advice and help in their various educational pursuits. Often he would assist them when subject matter seemed difficult.

Despite his busy life and the seemingly endless toil, work and sacrifice demanded in the rearing of his large family, William Wil-

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son found time to do his share in the civic affairs of his community. He served for several terms as a member of the Midway Town Board, was secretary of the Midway Irrigation Company for many years, and assisted in various capacities in other civic organizations. Throughout his life he was active in sports both as a participant and as a patron and spectator. He enjoyed and encouraged all sports but especially favored baseball. In all worthy community activities he contributed freely.

Throughout his life William W. Wilson was a devoted member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served his Church in many capacities. As a man of forty-six years with a wife and five children he fulfilled a mission to the Central States under President Samuel O. Bennion. Later he sent his daughter Elizabeth to serve in the Western States Mission. He was a member of the Midway First Ward Bishopric for thirteen years and held the office of High Priest. Also, he was an active member in the Church auxiliaries being in the Sunday School superintendency and for a number of years a teacher of the Parents' class, Mutual Improvement Association, and various Priesthood groups.

He had many interests and, busy as he was, made time to devote some of his energies to the things he liked to do. He possessed poetical ability and wrote many poems, some of which were read on patriotic and other public occasions. Being an inveterate reader, he spent as much time as possible at this interest. He was a lover of the theatre and dances.

Elizabeth Bailey Coleman was born at Midway, August 12, 1873, a daughter of William and Mary Clotworthy Coleman. She attended school at Midway. Her mother died when she was sixteen years old. She, being the eldest daughter, was given a mother's job in caring for her younger sister, two brothers, and her father who was in very poor health. She was an active worker in the YWMIA. She married William W. Wilson March 19, 1894, in the Salt Lake Endowment House. To them were born six children. Three died in infancy. Three grew to adulthood. They are William Rondo Wilson who married Evelyn Benson, Elizabeth Isabella Wilson Willmore, who married Naaman Willmore and Cecil Coleman Wilson. Elizabeth died on January 21, 1901.

Bertha Wilson was an industrious, good woman. She was active in Relief Society, was a good neighbor and devoted mother.

William Wilson's children by his second wife include:

- Evelyn;
- Amos;
- Grant;
- Elda, married to F. Odell Stanley of San Jose, California;
- Geneva, married William S. McKinley of Syracuse, New York;
- Elaine, married Edward W. Hughes of Washington, D.C.;
- Ross, married Betty Bernhisel, Salt Lake City;
- Helen, married Capt. Alger E. Hageman of Columbus, Ohio;
- Kathleen, married Dr. Scott E. Lockhart of Ogden.

#### MARY E. ABEGGLEN

Mary E. Abegglen, daughter of Ulrich Abegglen and Anna Elizabeth Kuffer Abegglen, was born October 4, 1879, at Bern, Switzerland. She came to Salt Lake City with her mother when she was eight years old, and in 1900 moved to Midway, where the family has resided since. She attended the LDS Business College and University of Utah. She taught school in Midway for a number of years and served as clerk of the Midway Town Board for many years. She was a member of the LDS Relief Society, and served as class leader in giving the theology lessons. She never married. She died September 6, 1947 in a Provo hospital after a lingering illness. p 692

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